

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6, 7, 18, 20, 22, 23, and 24 remain active in this application. Claims 1-5, 8-17, 19, 21, and 25-30 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, 13, 19, 25, and 27 are cancelled in this amendment. The remaining cancelled claims were cancelled in previous amendments.

A request for a two month extension of time to extend the period for response to the Office Action to March 4, 2005 accompanies this Amendment. In addition, authorization for withdrawing the payment for the extension of time from a deposit account is attached hereto. If the payment authorized is not sufficient for entry of this Amendment or the request and/or authorization for payment is missing, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to consider this a request for the necessary extension of time and to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384 the necessary amount for entry of this Amendment. A Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status was filed in this Application on January 11, 2000.

Applicant wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during a telephone interview that took place on February 22, 2005 regarding this Application. During this interview, the amendments submitted herein to Claims 18 and 20 were discussed and agreement was reached with respect thereto. It was agreed that Claims 6, 7, 18, 20, and 22-24 would be in condition for allowance upon submission of these Amendments.

Applicants wish to express their appreciation for the allowance of Claims 6 and 7, and for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 18, 20 and 22-24. In view of the amendments made herein to Claims 18 and 20, it is now believed that Claims 18, 20, and 22-24 are now in condition for allowance.

The objection to Claims 19 and 20 for informalities is respectfully traversed.

This objection no longer applies to Claim 19, which has been cancelled.

Claim 20 was objected to for containing the typographical error "read/write/device." This objection is respectfully traversed.

The phrase "read/write/device" has been changed, in each instance in which it appears, to "read/write device" (without the second slash), as discussed and agreed to in the telephone interview of February 22, 2005. Thus, it is requested that the objection to Claim 20 be

withdrawn. If any occurrence or occurrences of "read/write/device" still inadvertently remain in the Claims, the Office is hereby authorized to enter an Examiner's Amendment changing any occurrence of that phrase to "read/write device".

For these reasons, it is requested that the objection to Claims 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The phrase "machine/system control device" appearing in Claim 18 has been changed to "system", as discussed and agreed to during the telephone interview of February 22, 2005.

Thus, it is requested that the rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hsu et al. is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies to Claim 9, which has been cancelled.

Thus, it is requested that the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hsu et al. be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-3, 13, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Itsumi et al. in view of Harkin is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies to Claims 1-3, 13, and 27, which have been cancelled.

Thus, it is requested that the rejection of Claims 1-3, 13, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Itsumi et al. in view of Harkin be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsu et al. in view of Harkin is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies to Claim 19, which has been cancelled.

Thus, it is requested that the rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsu et al. in view of Harkin be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al. in view of Murphy and Takahashi is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies to Claim 25, which has been cancelled.

Thus, it is requested that the rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al. in view of Murphy and Takahashi be withdrawn.

It is now noted that the only claims remaining in the Application are those previously indicated by the Office as being allowable and that all amendments to the Claims have been carried out as discussed by the undersigned with the Examiner to make those Claims remaining in the application allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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